

TO THE FREEHOLDERS OF THE EAST RIDING OF THE COUNTY OF **YORK**

Gentlemen---

The Representation of the People in Parliament having been increased, you will shortly be called upon to choose from among yourselves a fit and proper person to represent your Interests in the Legislature of your country; and it is fitting that you should early have in view such person as you may determine shall so Represent you.

All light and Party considerations should cease to occupy your minds in making your selection; and all strife for mere party should be banished on the occasion; and only should be the object of your choice, whom you shall deliberately think can, and will serve you best.

In choosing one of yourselves from the Bosom of your own Riding, you will be most likely to have your Interests and better feelings fairly and truly represented. The medium period of life seems the most fitting out of which to select your choice, when experience shall have sobered the mind and driven therefrom the light frivolity of our youth, and implanted in its stead, thoughtful consideration.

To become a Member of Parliament the mind should be raised above the low jealousies of bickering strife, either for vain-glory or sordid contentment; and it is no light thing calmly to consider those befitting qualifications to sustain a seat in the Chair of deliberative Legislation.

At the instance of many Freeholders, whose judgment and opinions are entitled to confidence and respect, I am thus early induced to place my name before you for that high consideration.

In the prime and vigor of life—at that age in which, if at any time—true judgment is found in Man, it is not improper to lay that period. A child of Upper Canada, freed by circumstances which naturally entailed upon me duties in the Public services called for in the Commerce of human life—untrammelled by family considerations to make my choice, I have the experience of the true interest of the Country and believe you will be judged whether I am worthy of your confidence or not.

As a Magistrate, District Councilor, and a man, you have all had opportunities of judging. In the dark hour of difficulty I have promptly done my duty—when dangers and troubles were over I have oppressed no man; and the same love of freedom, the same love of Justice, the same native love of country which has marked my resistance of oppression, both on the Bench, in the District Council, and before the Juries of my Country, shall ever animate me to exert my humble powers in support of the rights, and in defence of the Liberties of the People of Upper Canada; and in this Address I have only to add, that if you see fit to return me, I shall endeavor to serve you faithfully; and if I fail in that, I am willing to be judged by you accordingly. The only difficulty is in judging of my ability and integrity—an honorable remembrance it will be my ambition to deserve.

I am, Gentlemen, always,